



# Radio astronomy & Yebes Observatory

IWLR 2022, Guadalajara, Spain

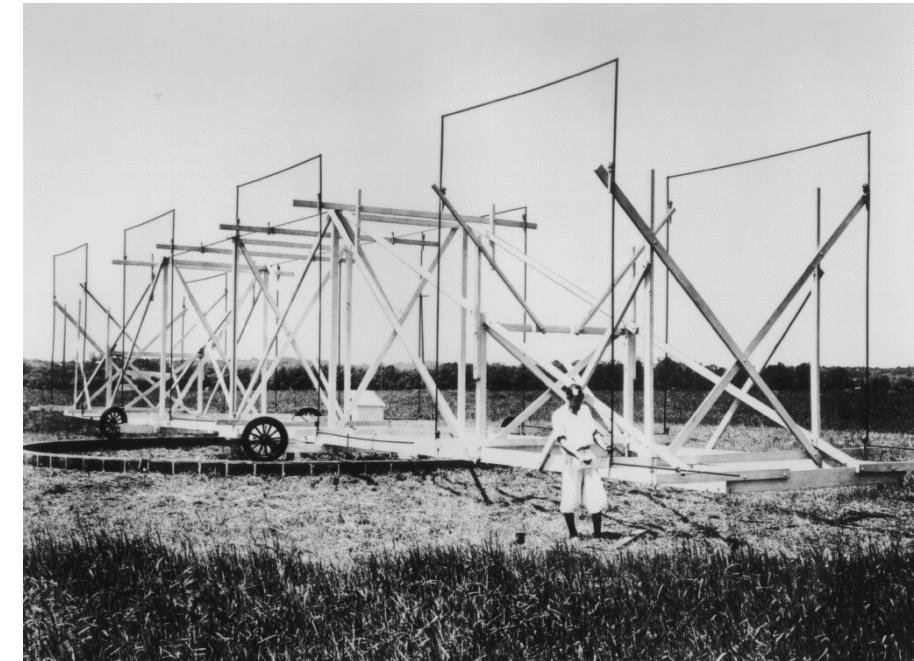
Pablo de Vicente  
Yebes Observatory. IGN

Started in the 1920s - 1930s

## Karl Jansky

He built an orientable antenna to receive radiation at **20.5 MHz** (wavelength 14,5 m) and discovered: *a faint steady hiss of unknown origin.*

[1933] He noticed the **radiation** came from the Sagittarius region (**center of our galaxy**).

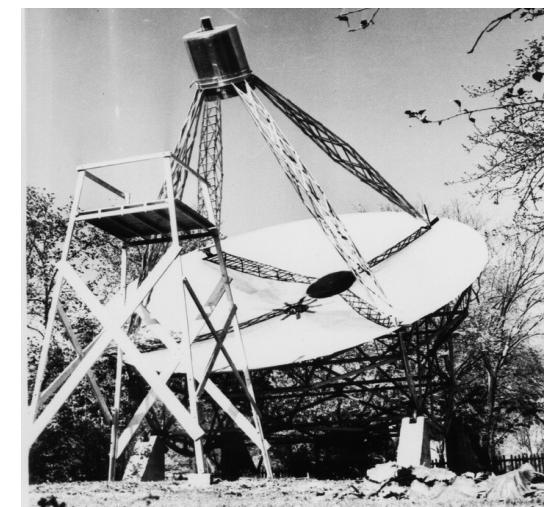


## Grote Reber

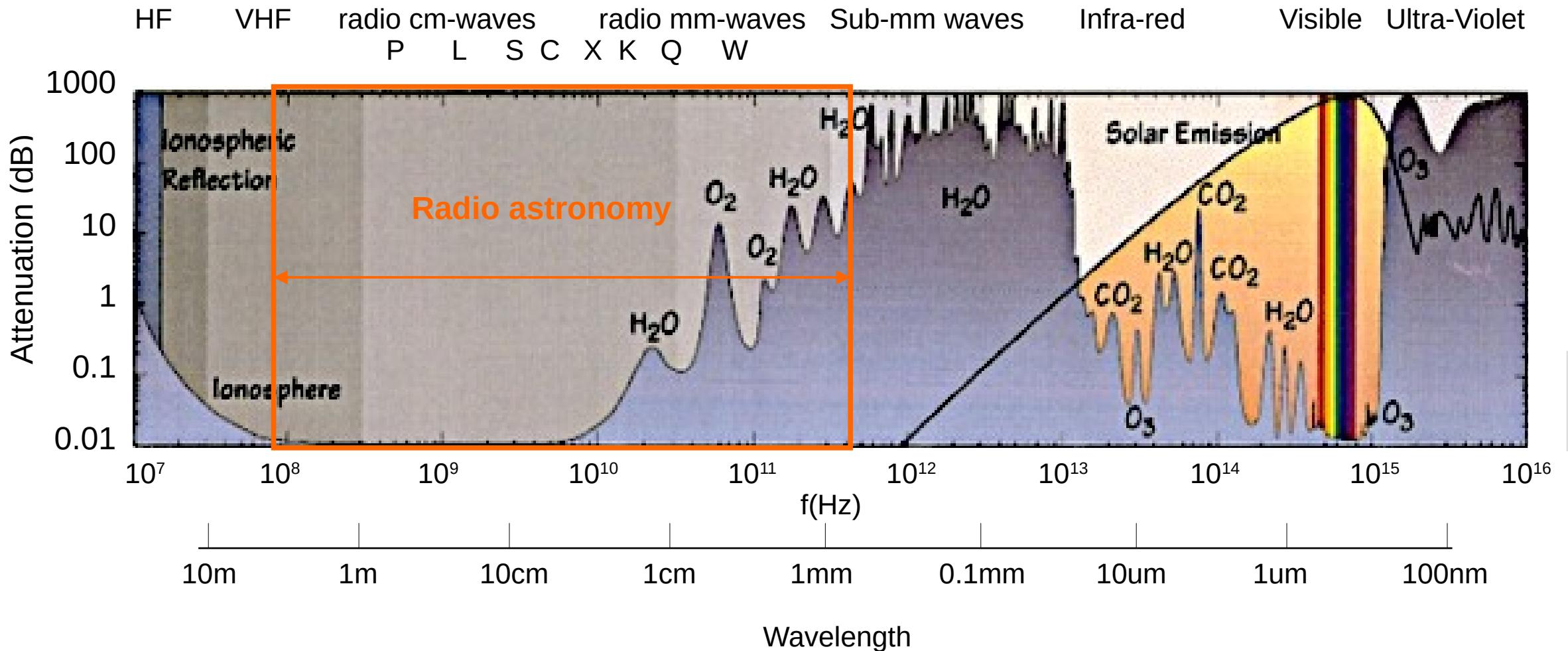
He built a 9.45 m radio telescope in his backyard.

[1938] He discovered **radiation** from the Milky Way at 160 MHz.

[1944] First radio map of the Galaxy



# Radio astronomy: The electromagnetic spectrum



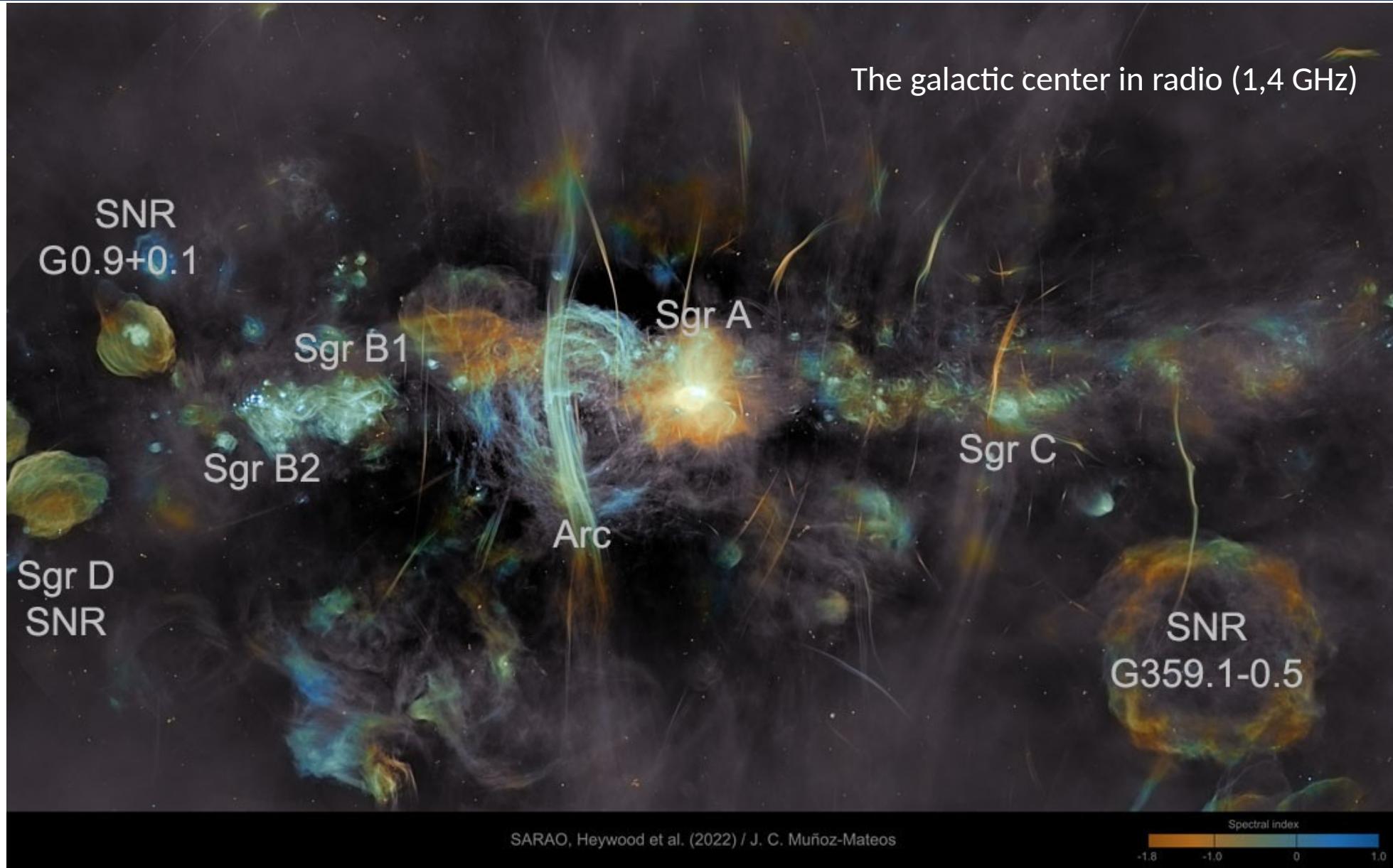


Digitized Sky Survey - STScI/NASA, Colored & Healed by CDS

# Radio astronomy: The invisible Universe

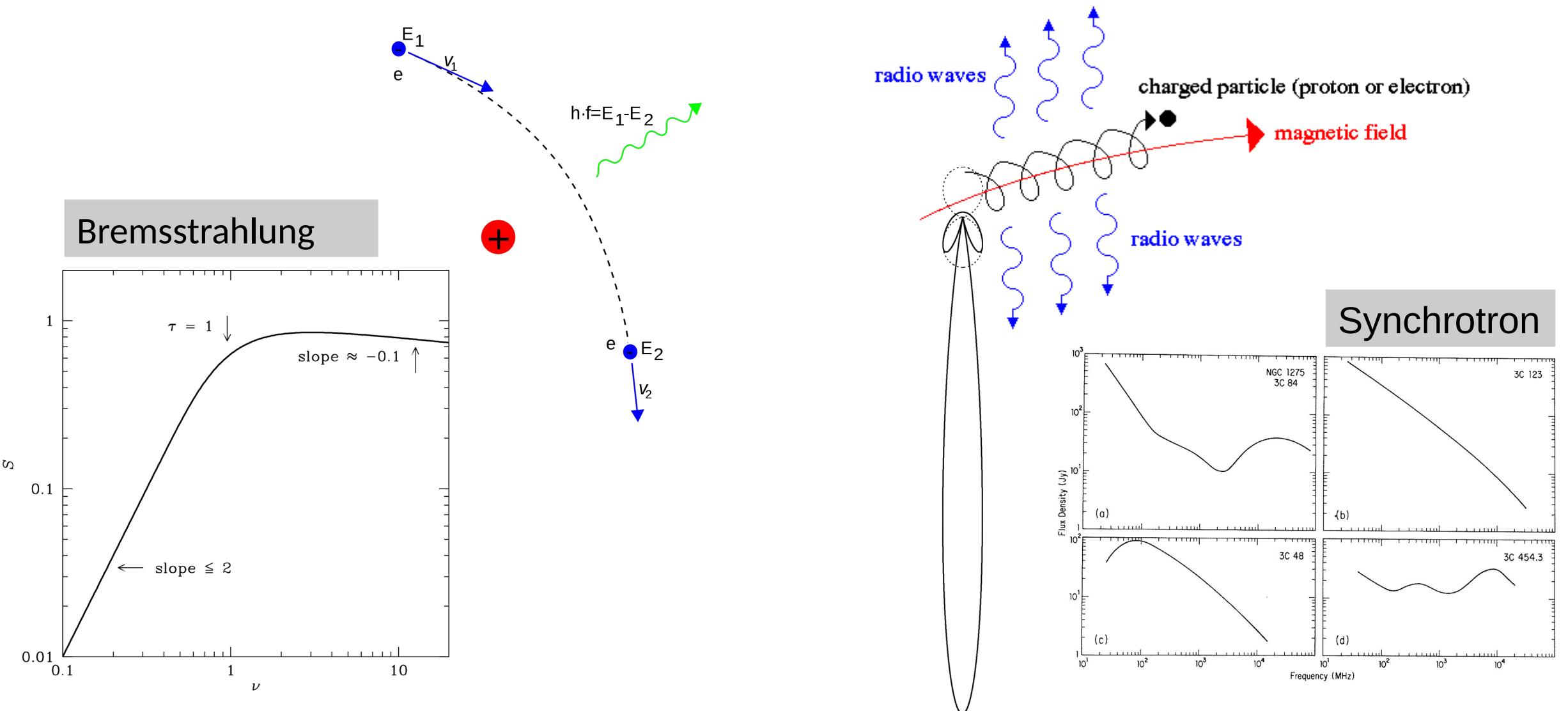


The galactic center in radio (1,4 GHz)



Heywood et al. (2022) / J.C. Muñoz-Mateos (SARAO)

## Continuum radiation



## Synchrotron radiation (ultra energetic Universe)

Radio Galaxy Hercules A:

- Black hole: M87
- High relativistic jets

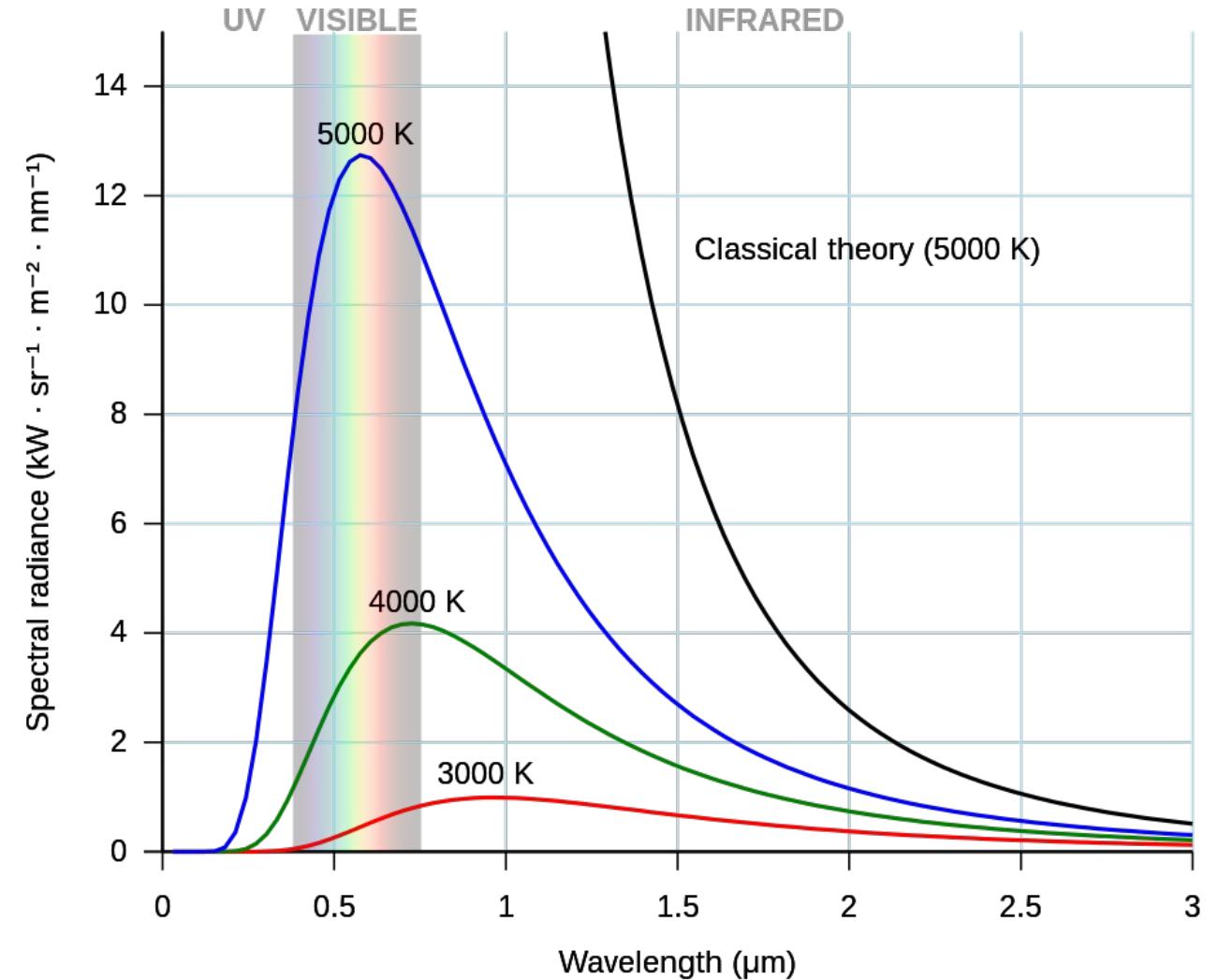


VLA (NRAO) data

## Continuum radiation

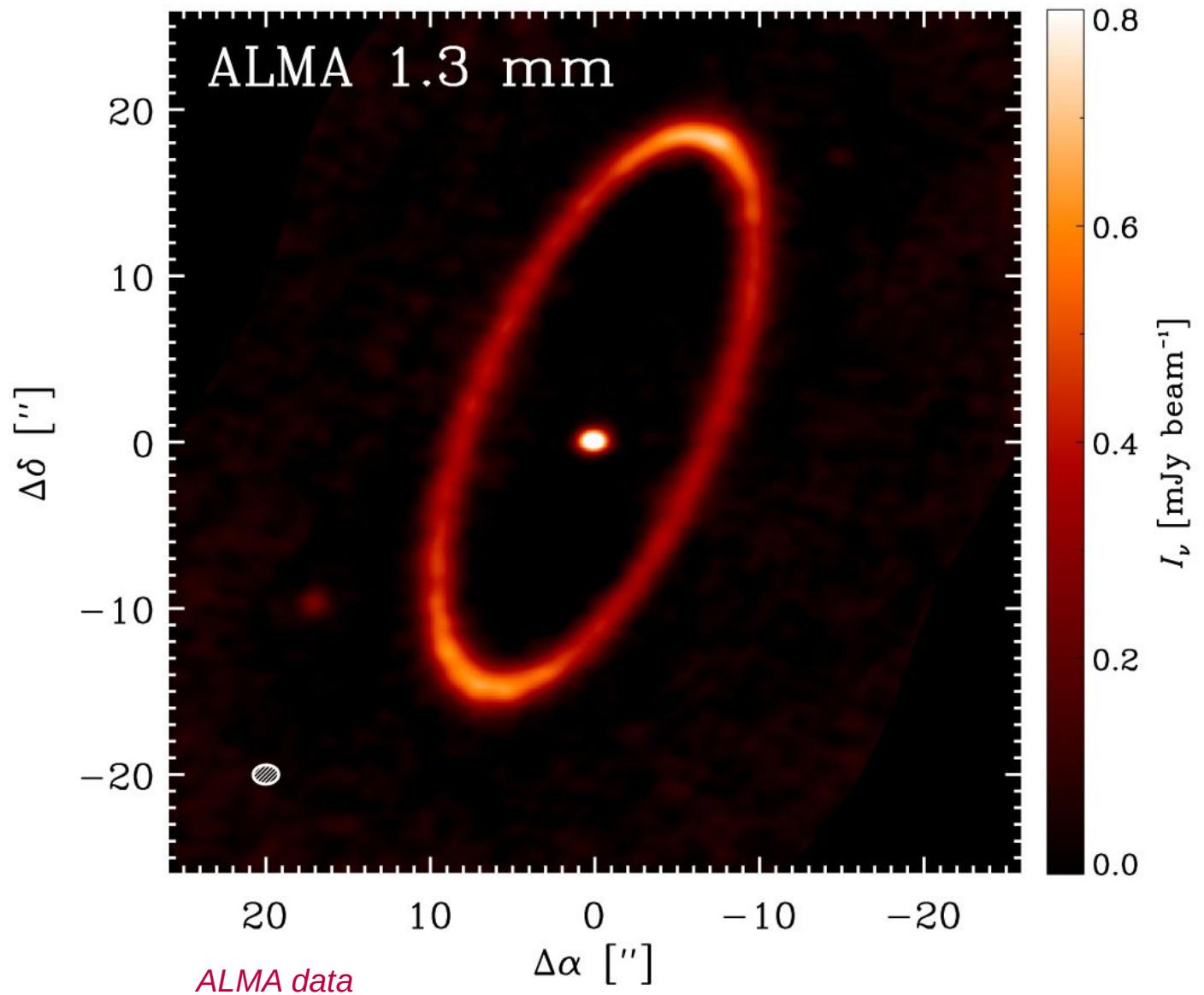
### Blackbody

$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2\nu^2}{c^2} \frac{\hbar\nu}{e^{\hbar\nu/kT} - 1},$$



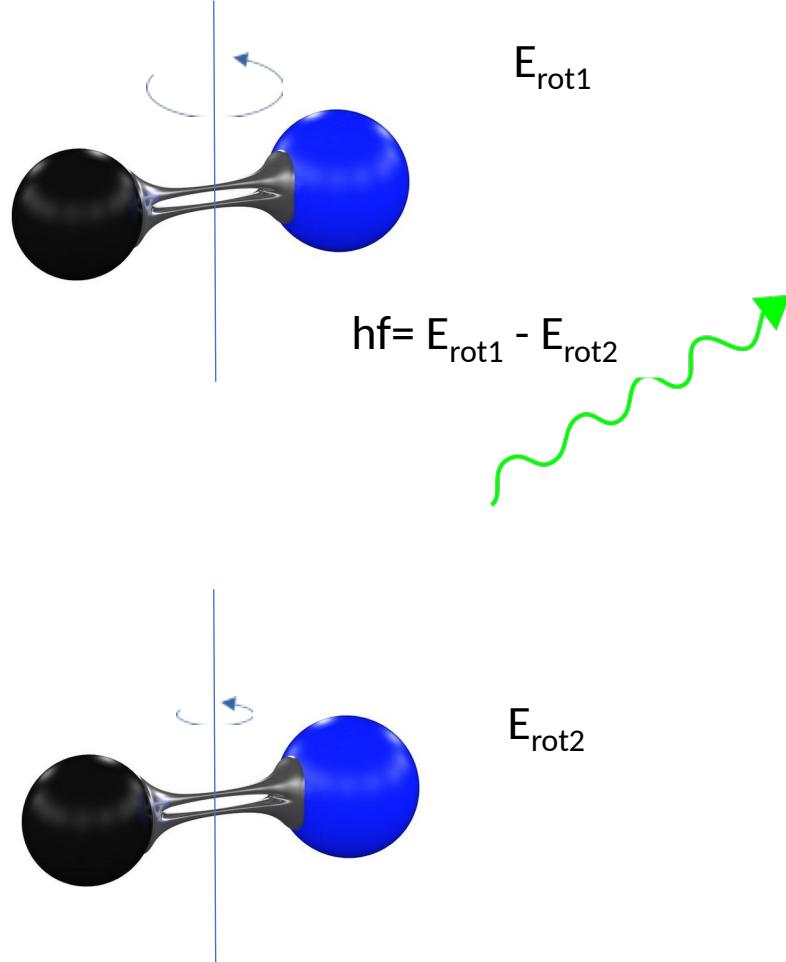
Blackbody radiation from dust  
(cold Universe)

Debris disk in Formahault system  
(230 GHz)

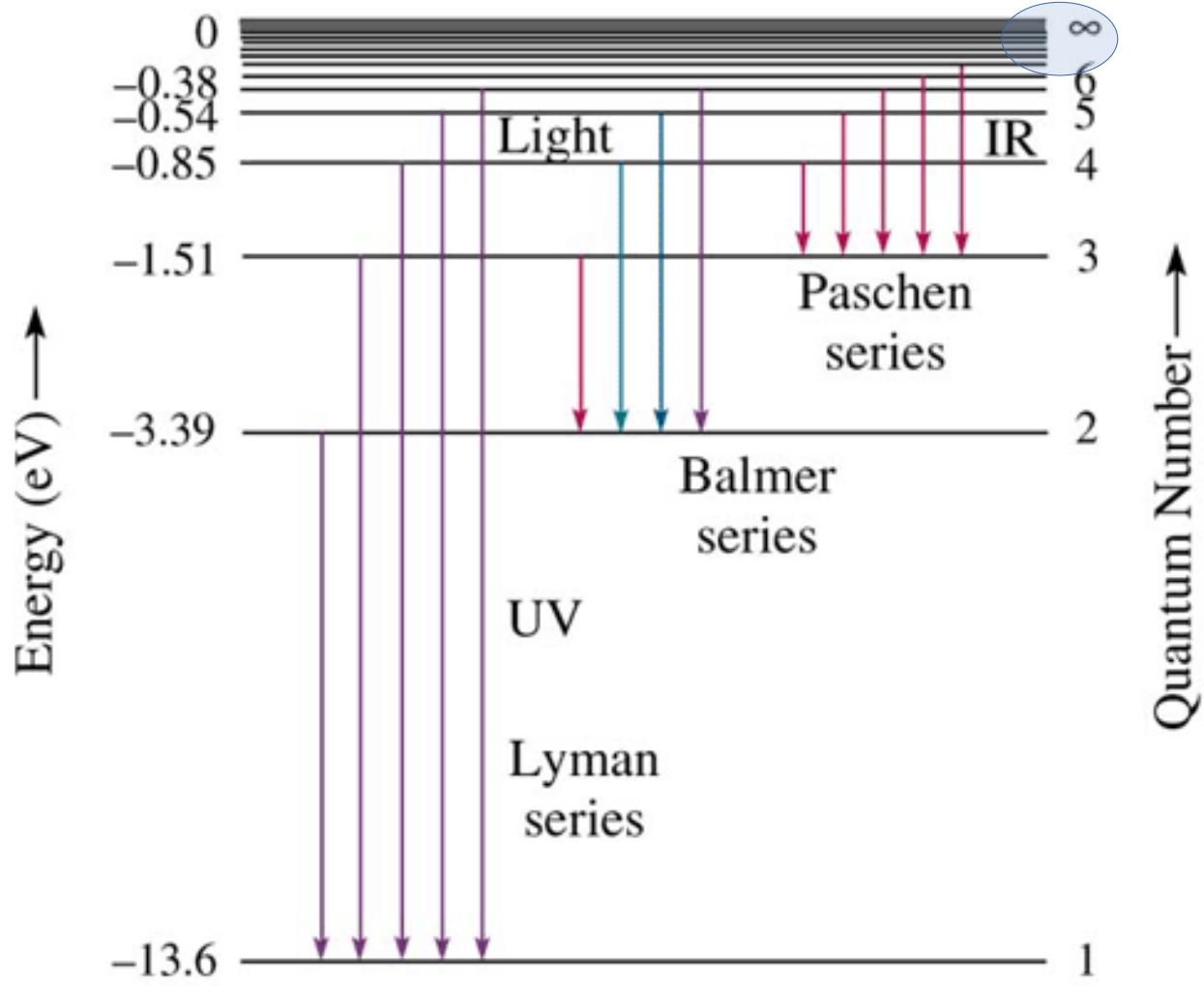


MacGregor et al. 2017

## Spectral: rotational molecular transitions



## Spectral: radio recombination (atoms)

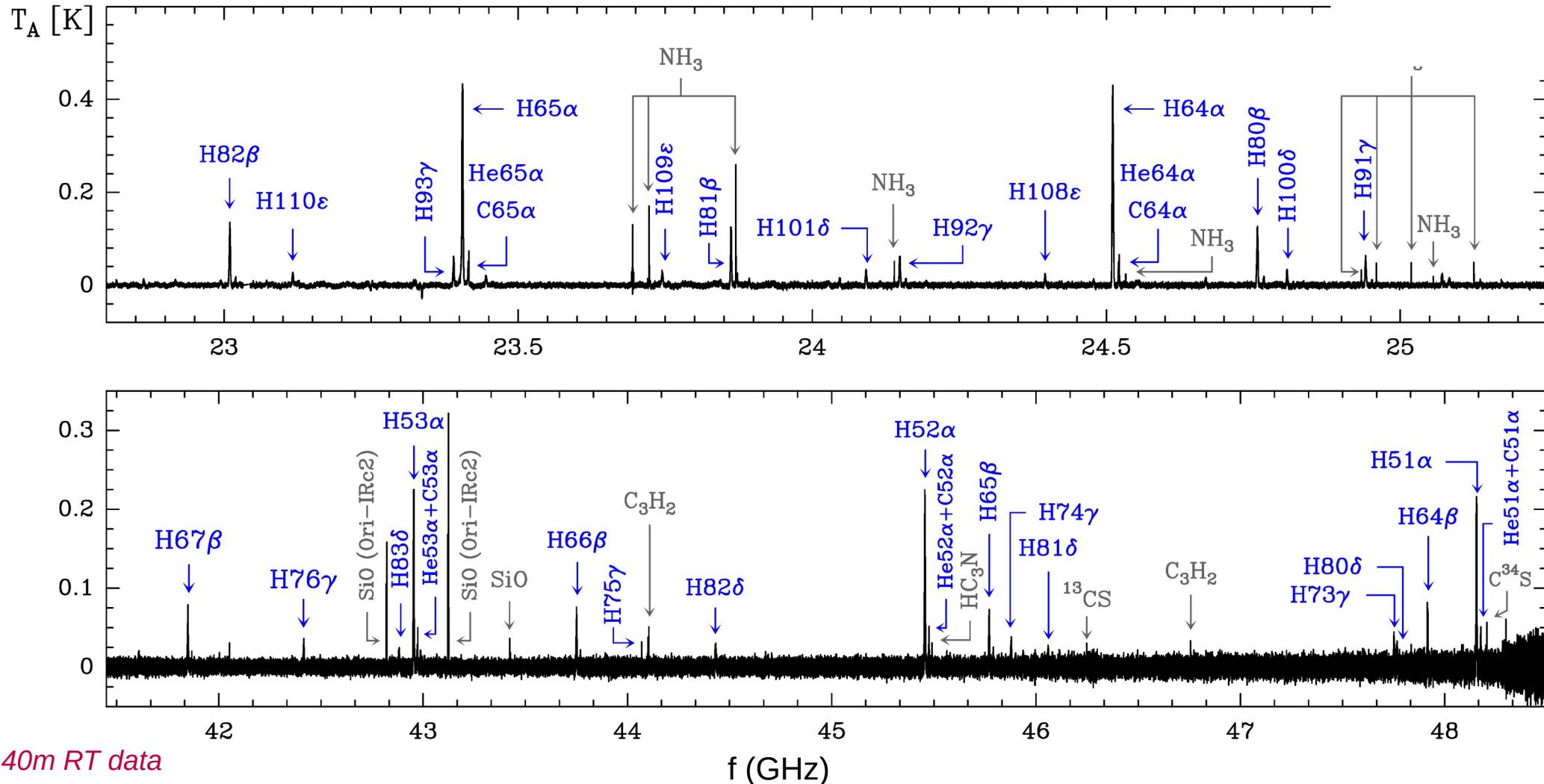


Thomson Brooks / Cole (2004)

# Radio astronomy: Types of emission

## Spectral radiation

### Orion Bar PDR



Yebes 40m RT data

Cuadrado et al. (2017)

## Paraboloids

Primary focus  
Secondary focus  
Nasmyth

## Receivers

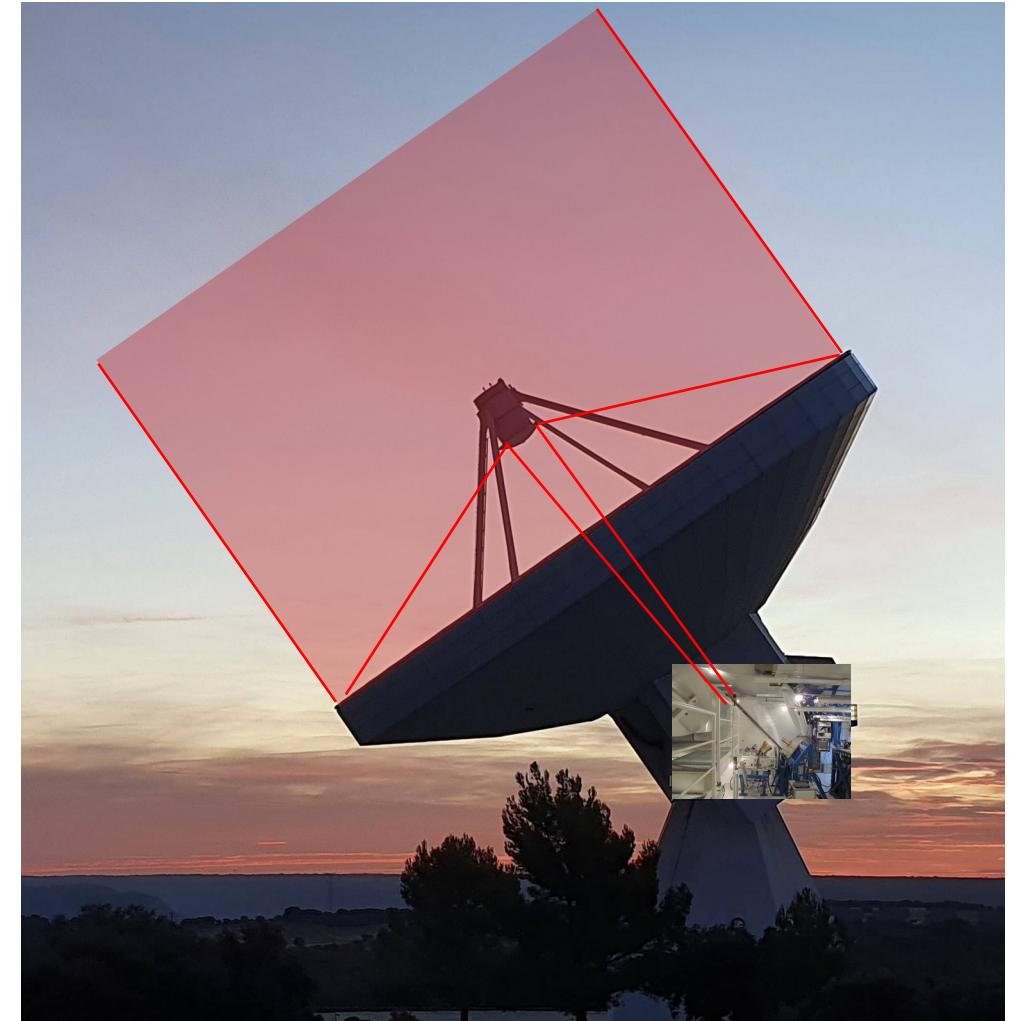
At focus  
Single pixel or multipixel (a few pixels)  
Cryogenic ( $< 15$  K, or  $< 4$  K)

## Limitations & risks

Atmosphere: H<sub>2</sub>O & O<sub>2</sub>  
RFI

## Angular resolution

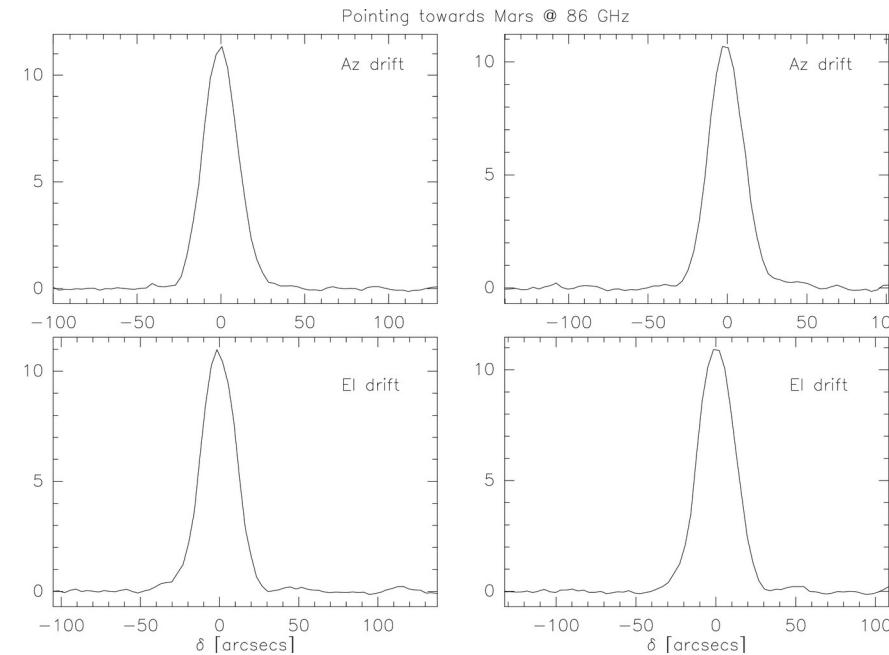
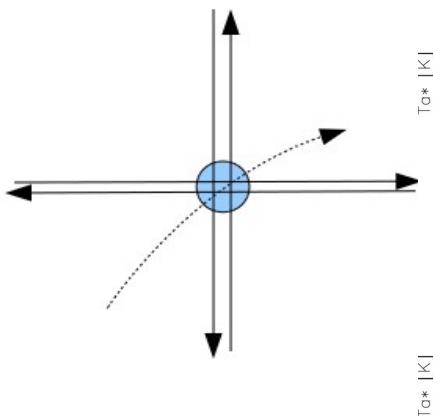
$\lambda/D$  → Big telescopes



Yebes 40m RT

## Single dish pointing & mapping

On the Fly acquisition & rasters  
Spectral and/or continuum mapping



Yebes 40m RT data

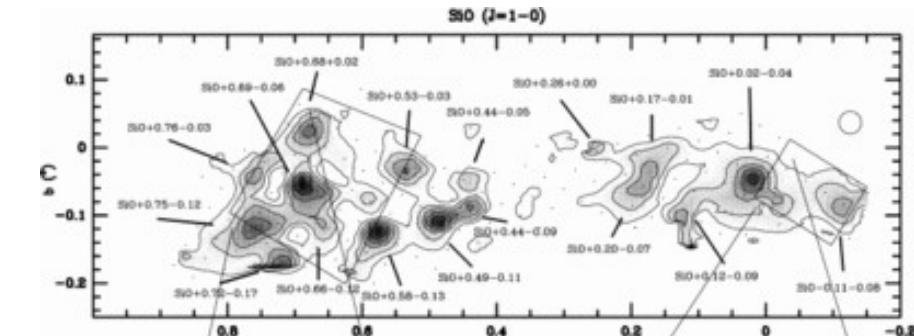


Fig. 1

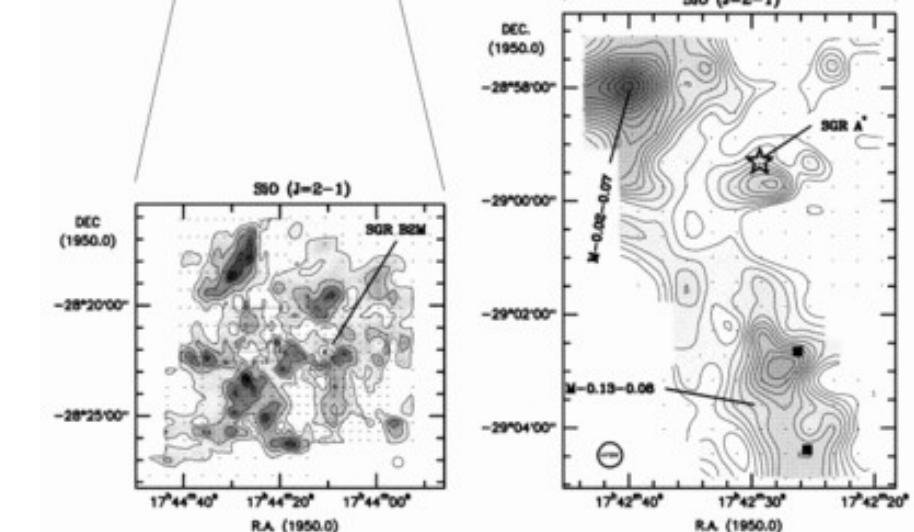


Fig. 2a

Fig. 2b

Yebes 14m RT data & IRAM 30m data

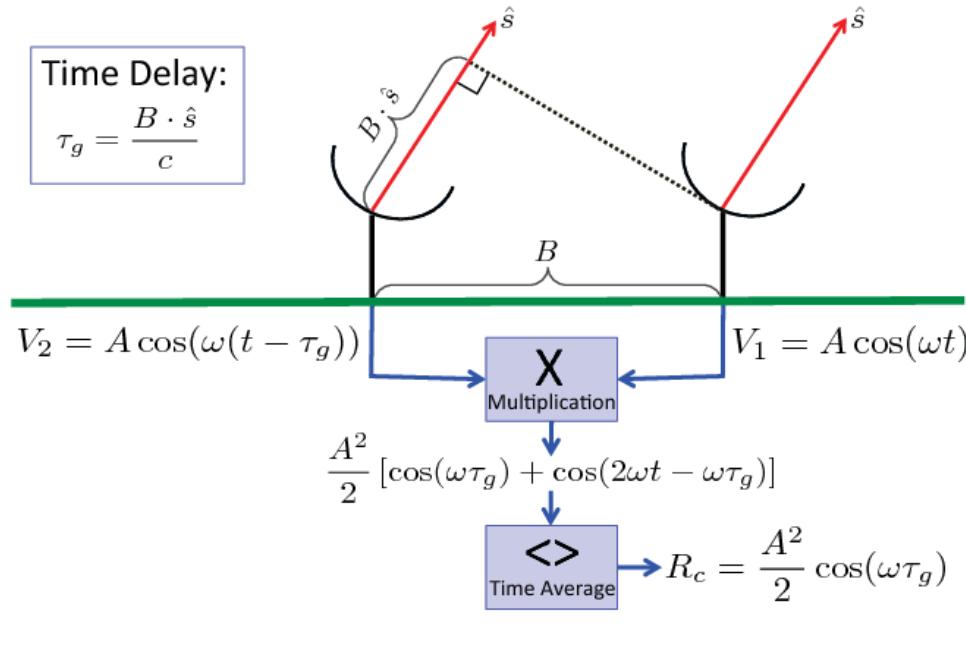
## Interferometry

Synthesizing a large telescope:

Multipling data in baselines and integrating

Increases angular resolution: **25  $\mu$  arcsecs!!**

Phase & Amplitude calibration



Connected



The VLA (NRAO)

Not connected (VLBI)

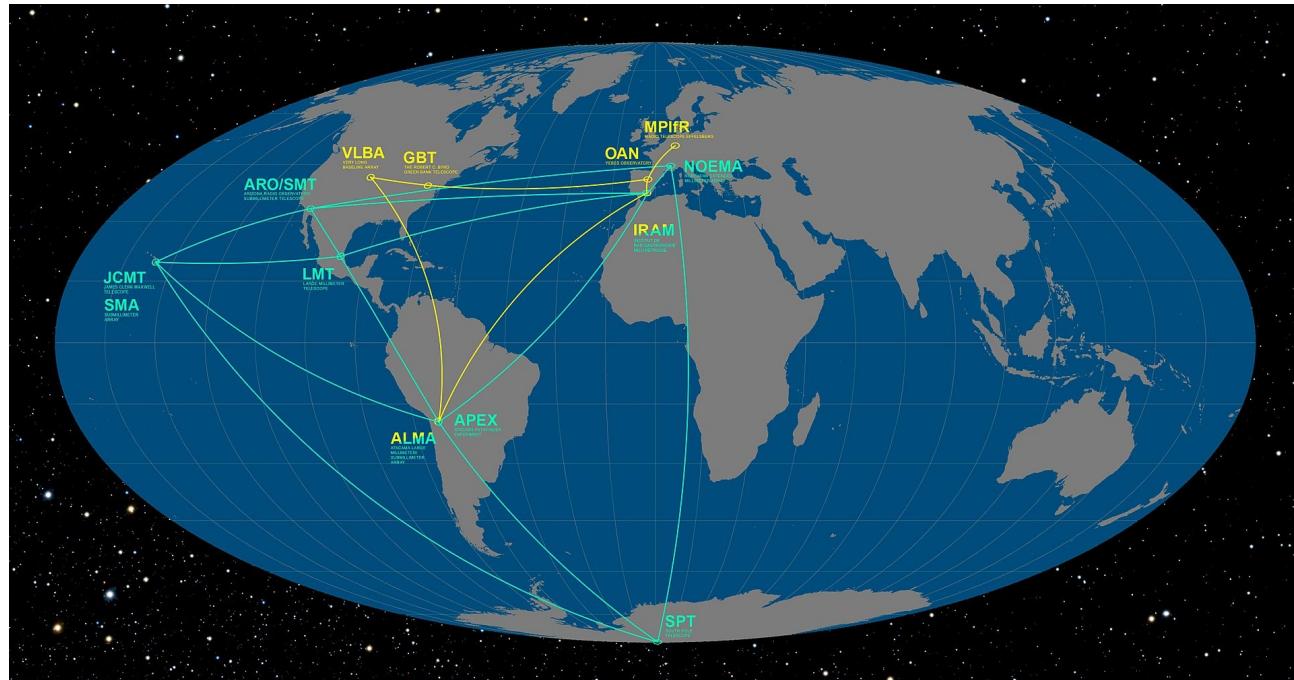


The GMVA (EHT, ESO)

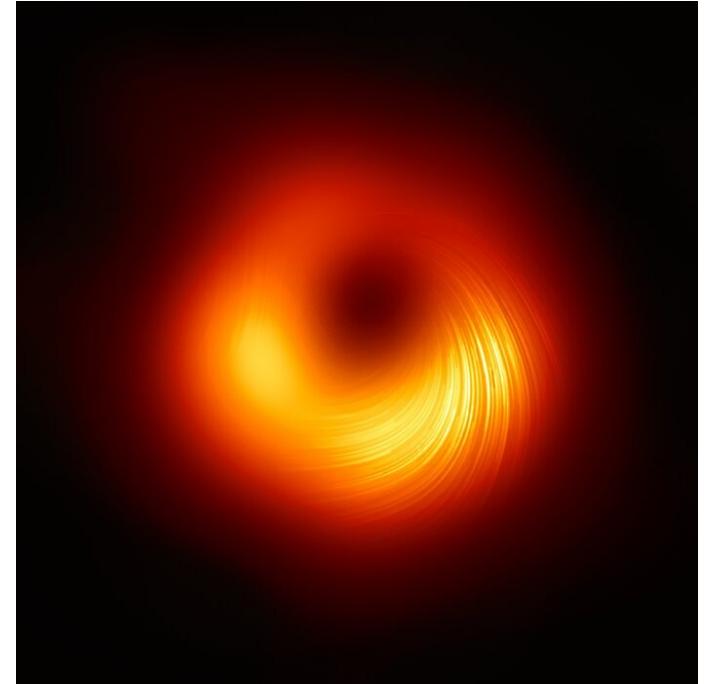
## Interferometry Imaging

Aperture Synthesis (& FT)

Synthesizing a large telescope: Telescopes + Earth rotation



ESO/ O. Furtak



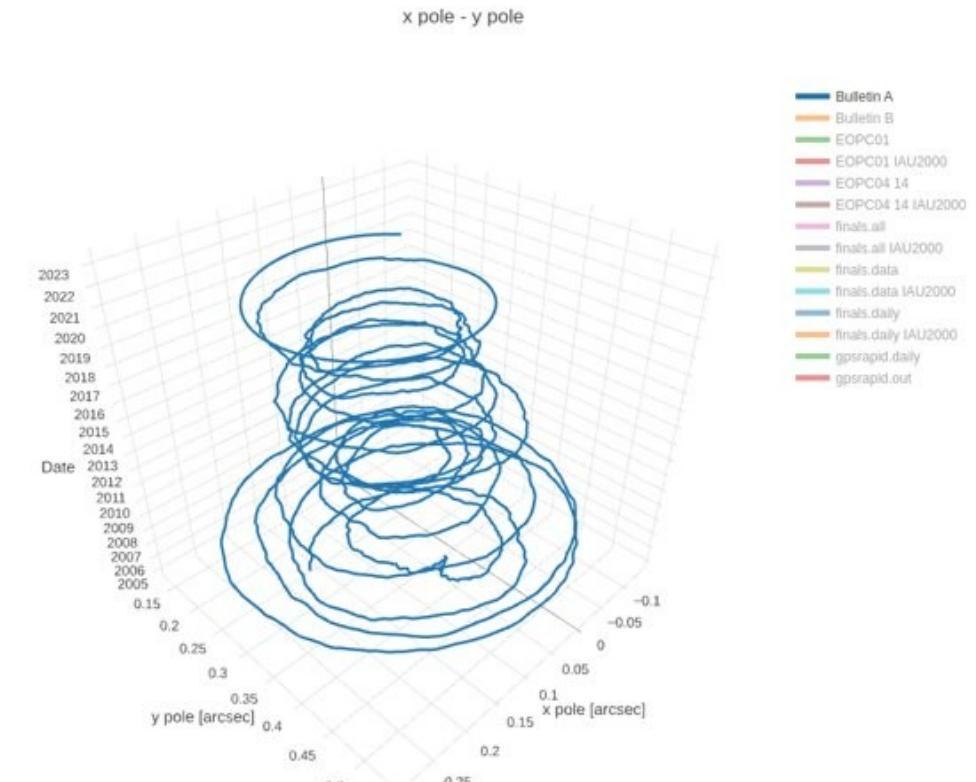
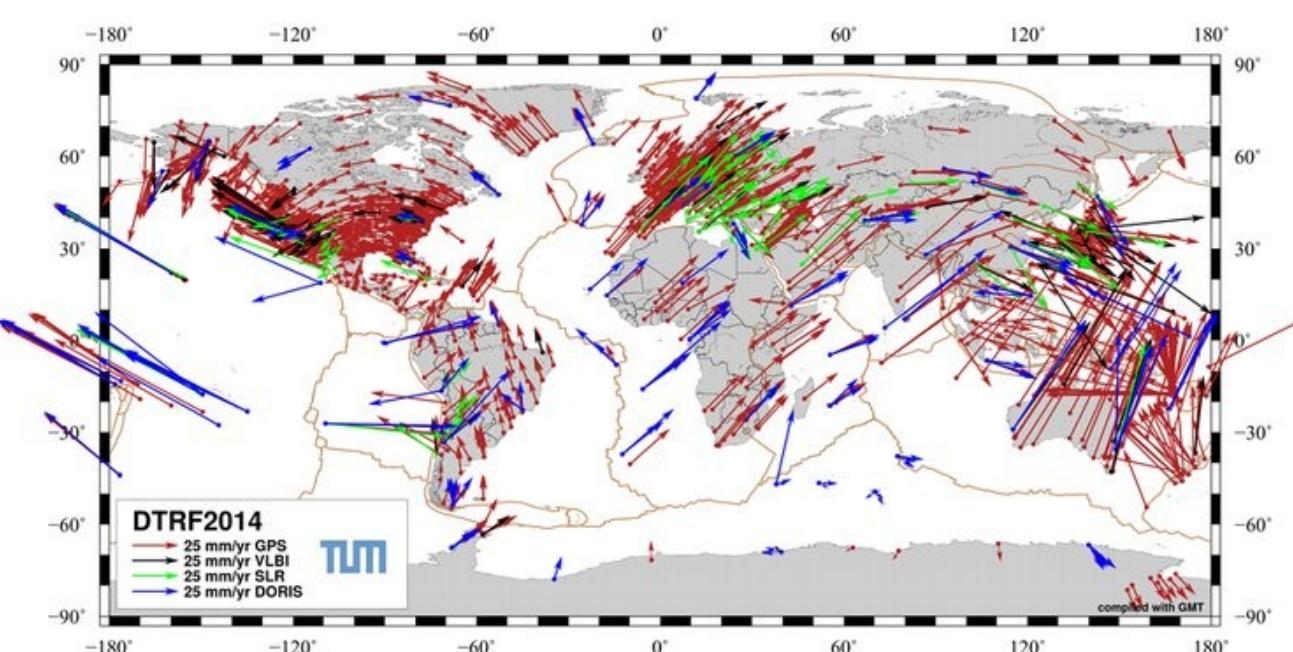
EHT Collaboration

## Interferometry

The geodetic connection: IVS (Rüdiger Haas talk later)

Measuring baselines with precisions  $\sim 1$  mm

Measuring the EOP & contributing to the ITRF and ICR

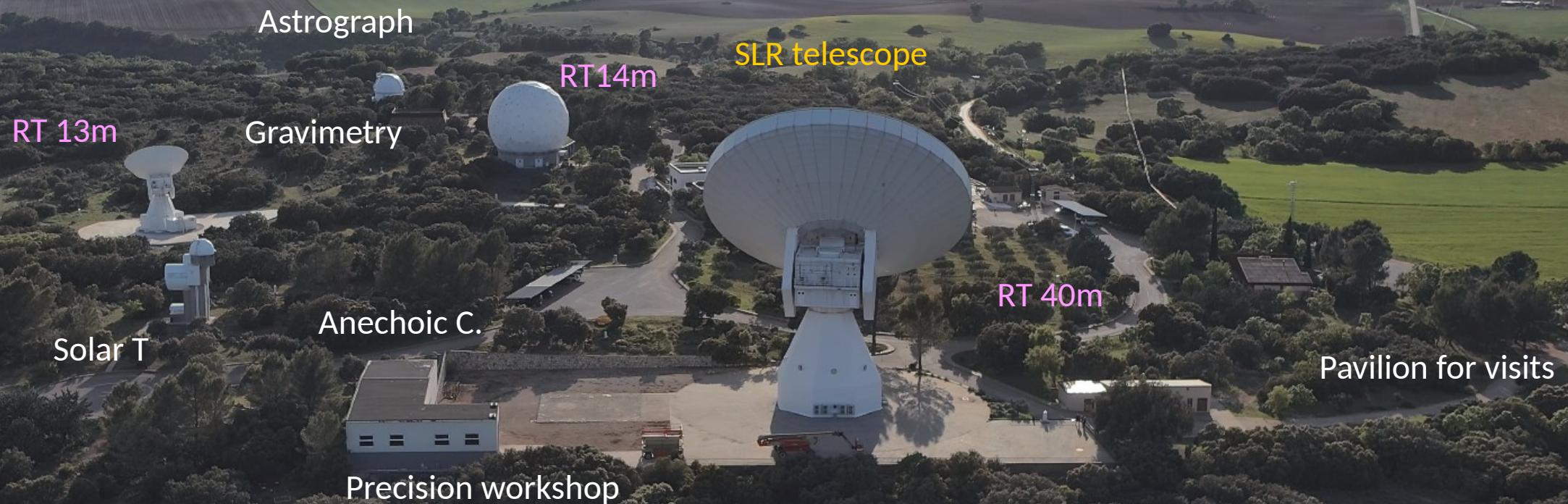


## Yebes Observatory:

- Radio Astronomy observatory
- Technological development center for Radio Astronomy
- Future Geodetic Fundamental Station



# Yebes Observatory: Infrastructures



First single dish observations: **1979 @ 45 GHz (7 mm)**

First interferometer successful observation: **1989**

First geodetic observations @S/X: **1992**

Receivers designed & built in house

Ctrl. System written in house

Ceased operations: **2003**



**Flagship of Yebes Observatory**

**Open Skies policy:** Scientists across the world

Operates as **single dish** (2 calls)

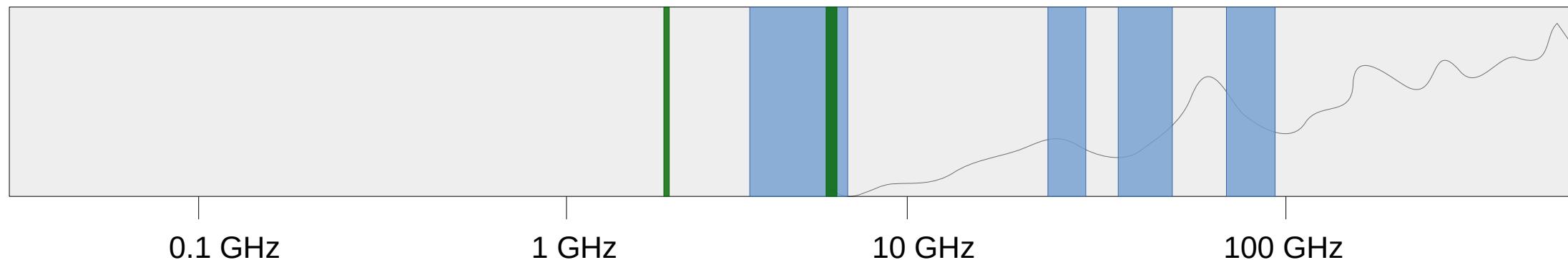
Operates as **interferometer** element

- European VLBI Network (3 calls)
- Global Millimeter Array (2 calls)

**Geodetic IVS** observations (to be dropped)

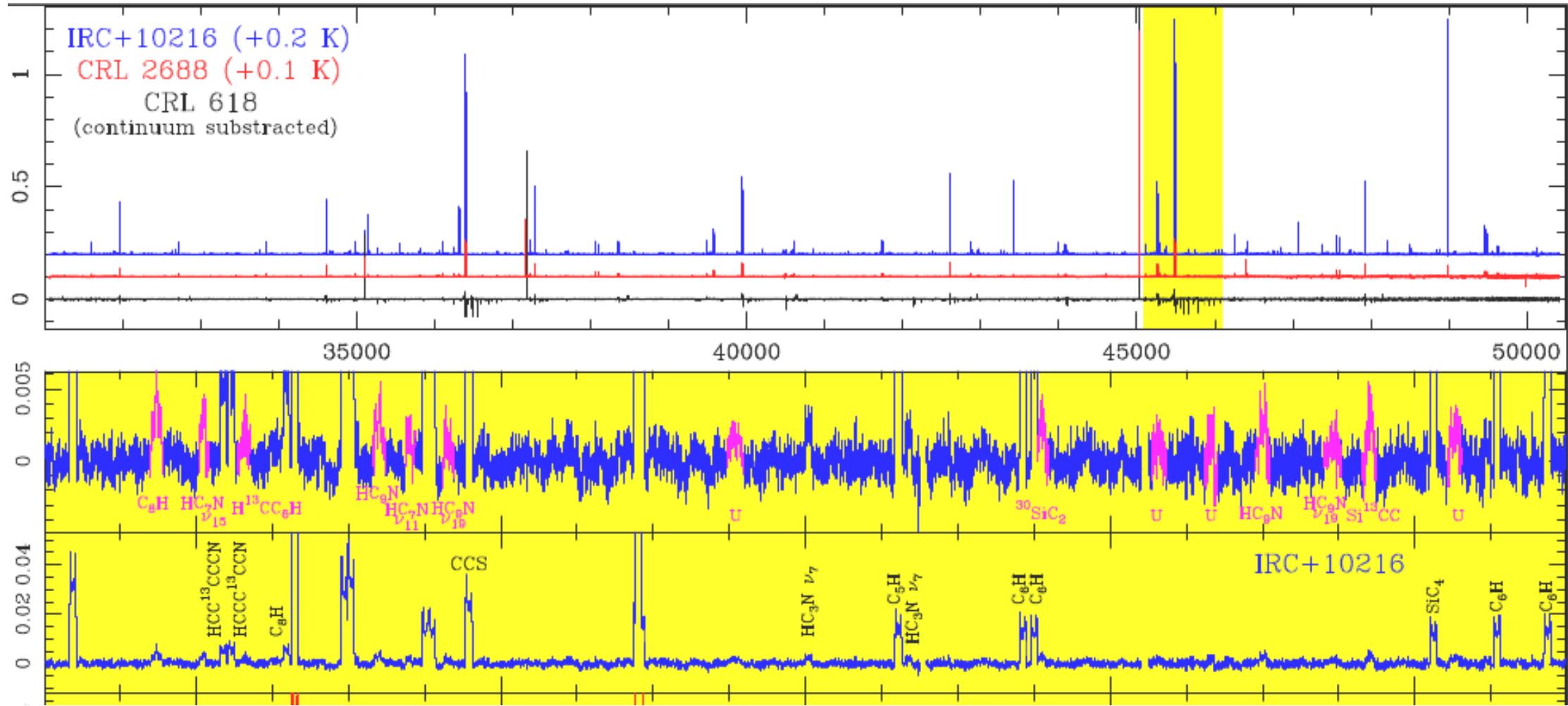
**Receivers designed and built in house**

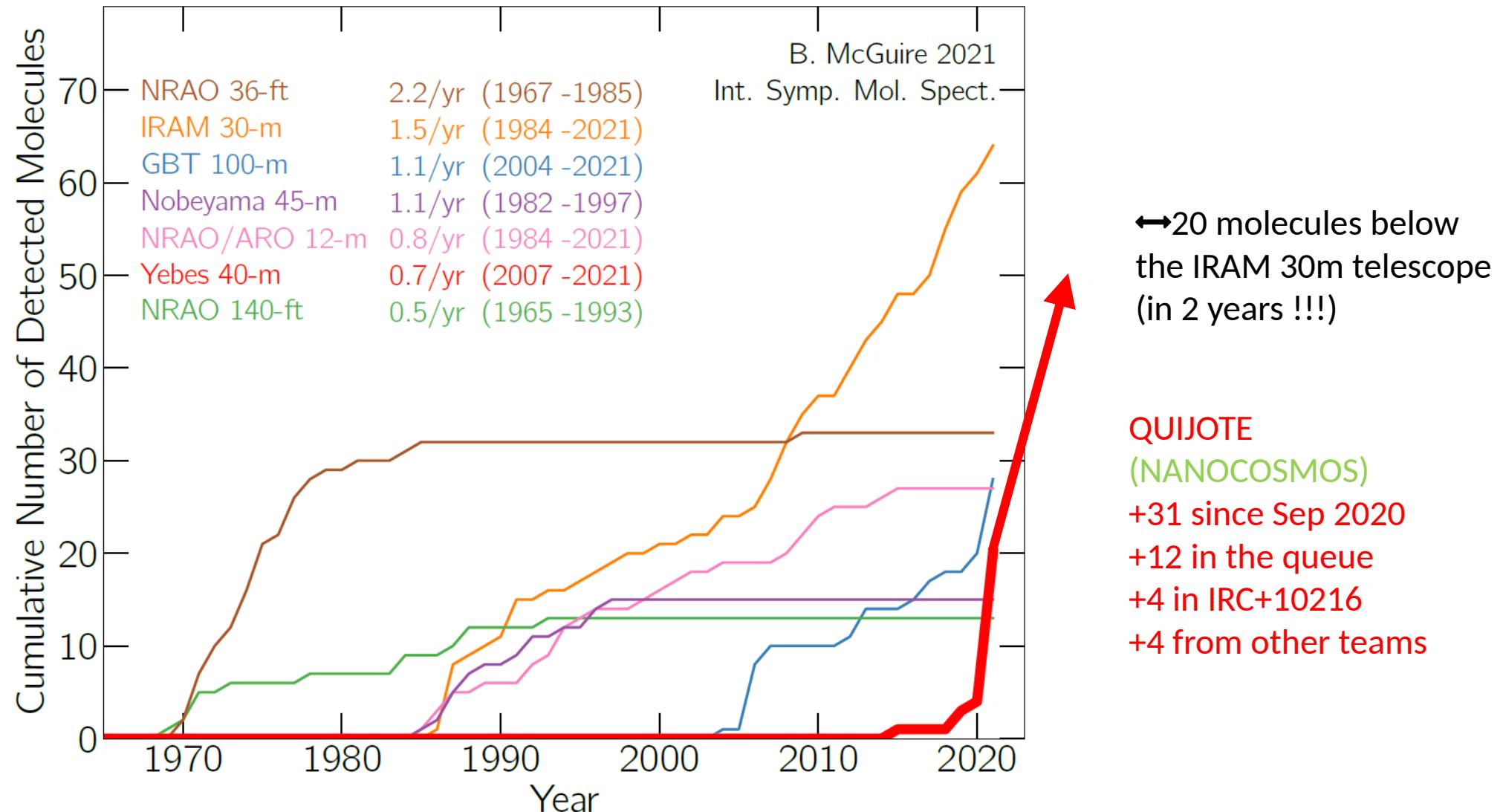
**Ctrl. System** and pipeline designed & built **in house**



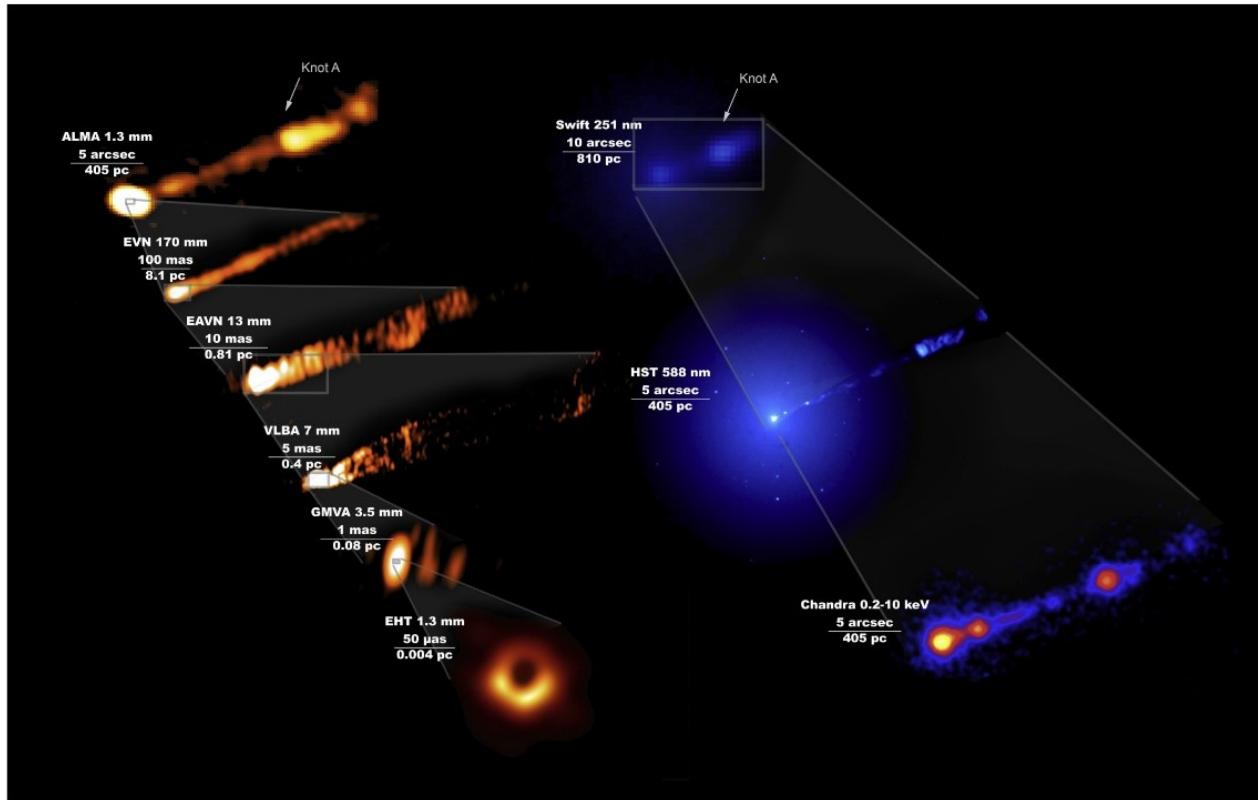
## Molecular spectroscopy instrument:

- Detection of **molecules** in the galactic and extragalactic interstellar medium. "Surveys".
- Study of **molecular clouds** (emission/absorption, maps)



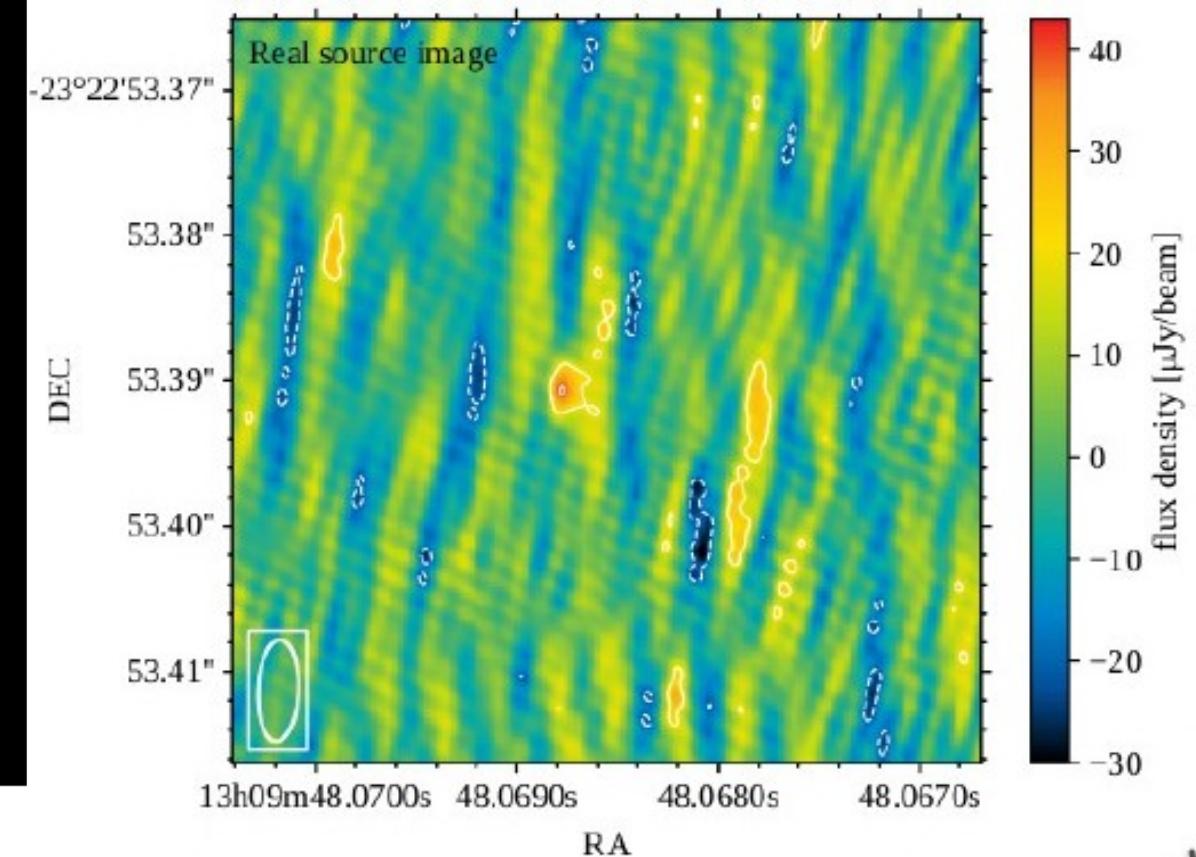


## M87 black hole and relativistic jets



The EHT MWL Sc. Group (2021)

## Fusion of neutron stars. Electromagnetic after-glow gravitational wave



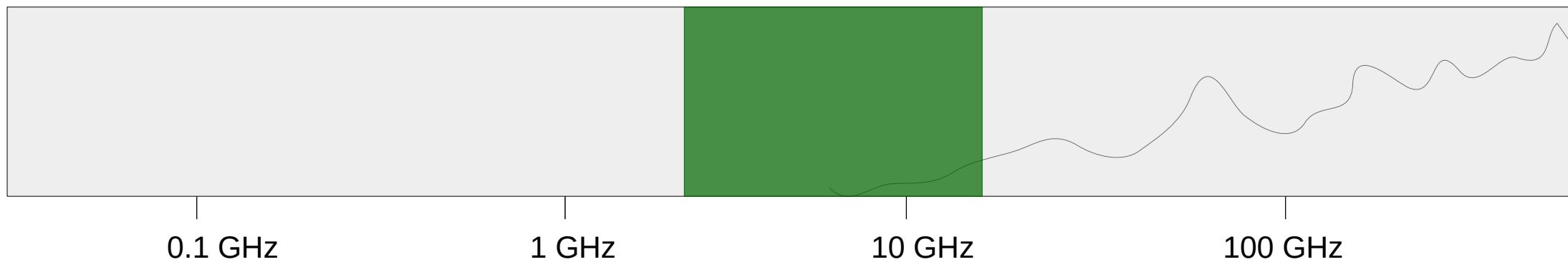
Devoted to geodetic radio astronomy observations

Part of the **IVS (VGOS** project)

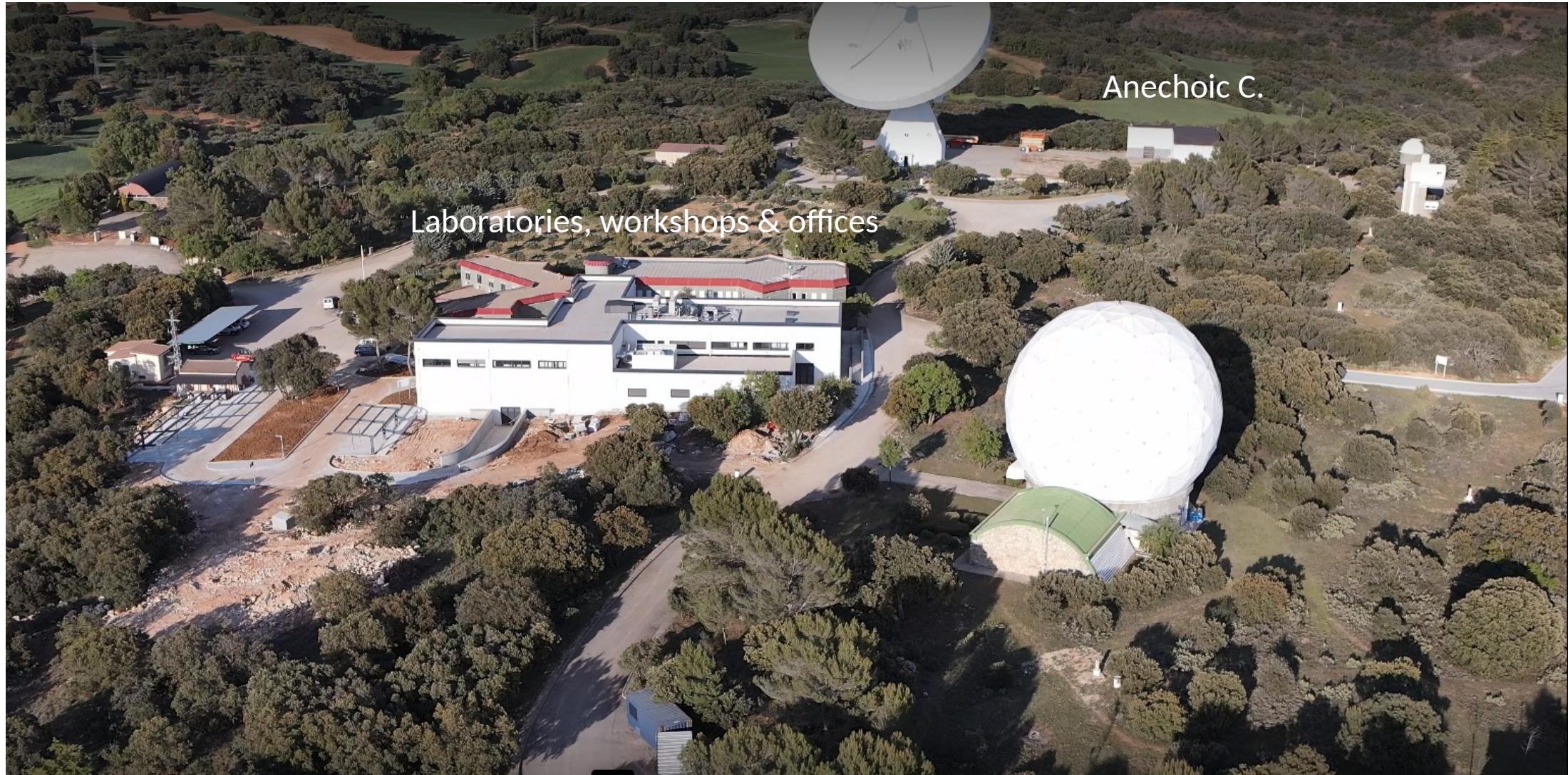
First element of the **RAEGE** network

**Receivers** designed and built **in house**

**Ctrl. System** and pipeline designed & built **in house**



# A Technological Development Center for Radio Astronomy

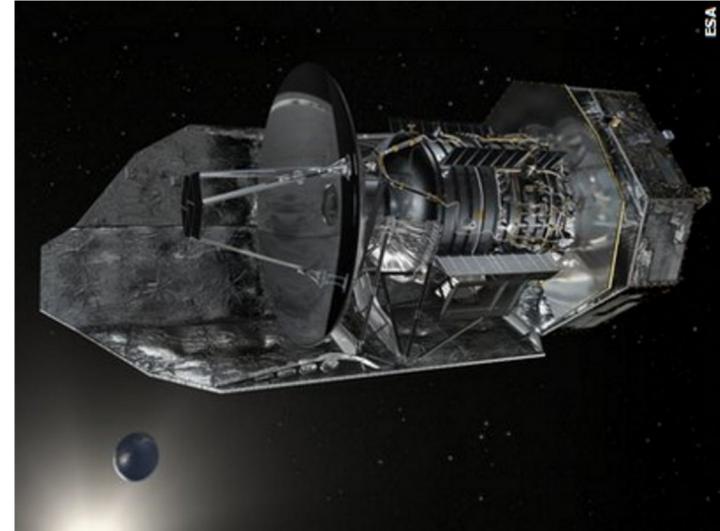


**Technological experience in radio astronomy (> 37 years)**

Well known in the radio astronomy world

**International collaborations:**

- **IRAM.** NOEMA
- **ESA.** **Herschel** HIFI
- **ESO.** ALMA
- **SRON.** ALMA
- SKA
- NARIT. TNTRT
- IVS: NMA, FGI, GSI, BKG
- EU-VGOS
- Radionet, ORP, RADIOBLOCKS
- Non radio astronomical:
  - Quantum computing
  - Dark matter candidates: axions



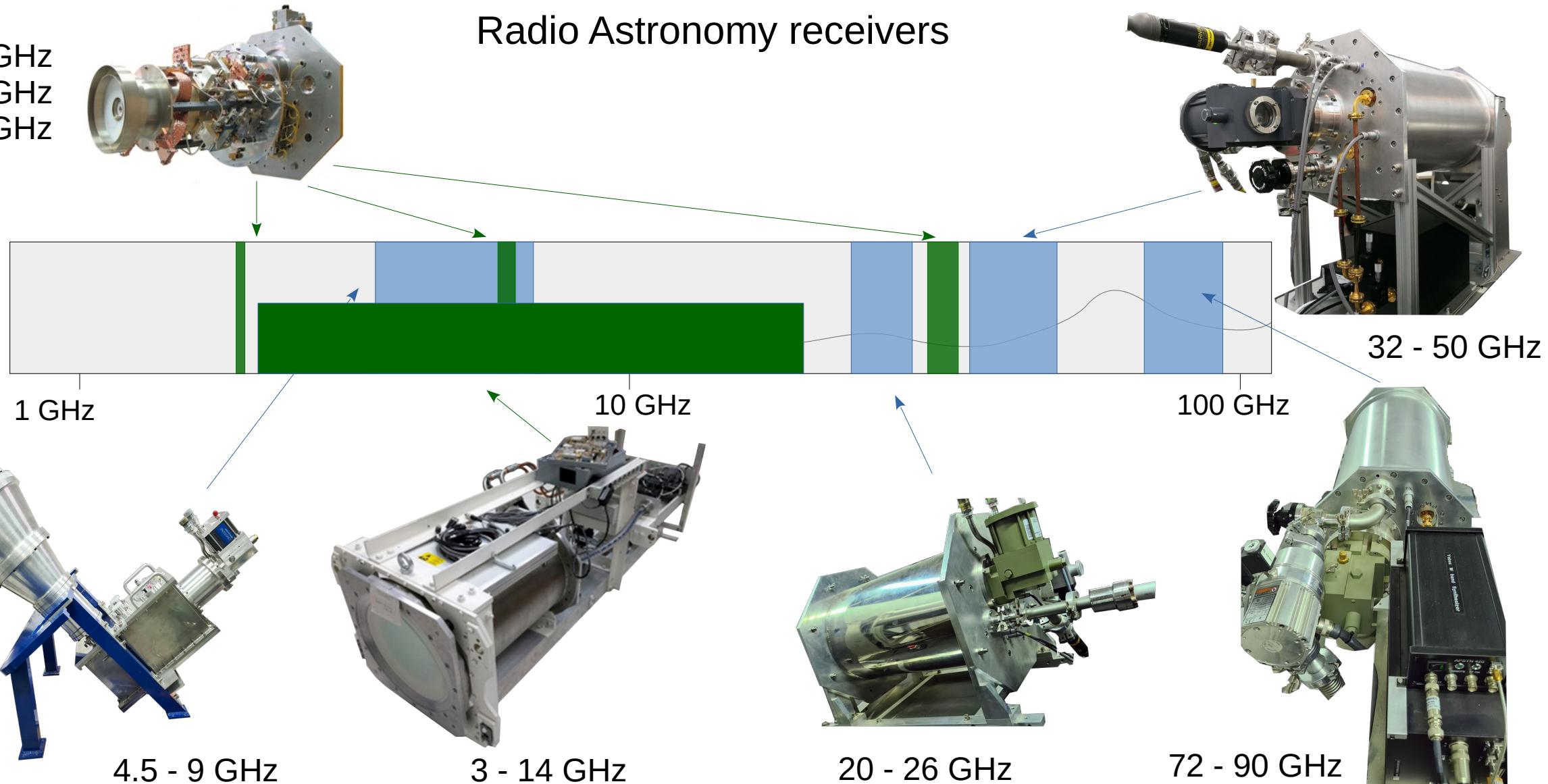
Herschel



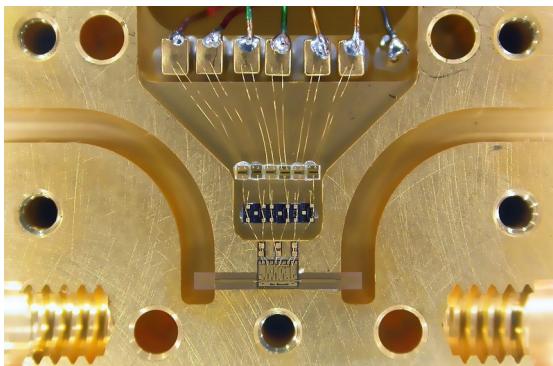
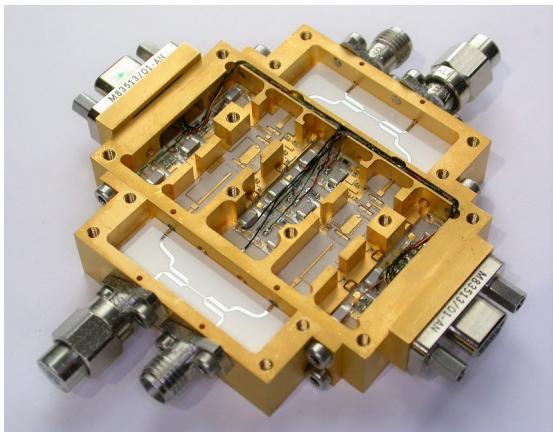
ALMA

2 - 2.3 GHz  
8 - 8.8 GHz  
28 - 32 GHz

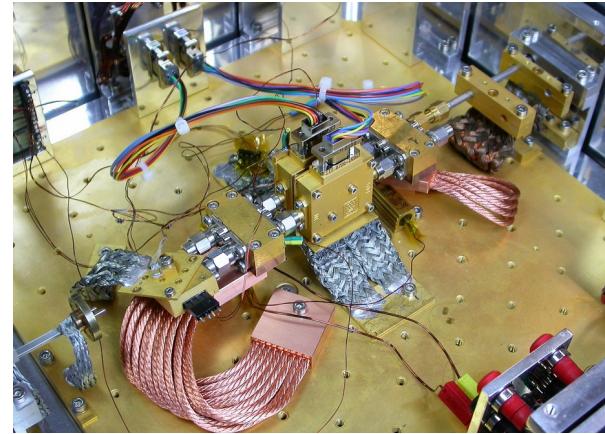
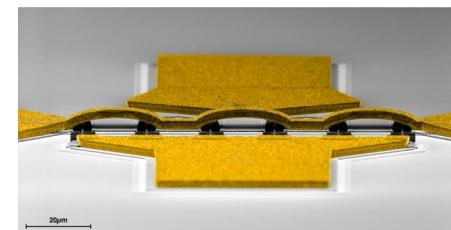
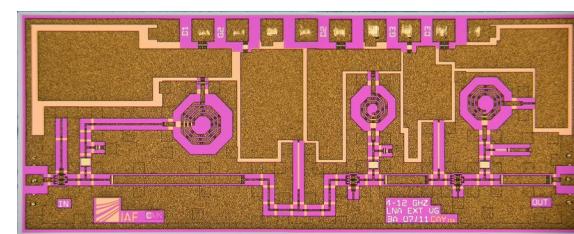
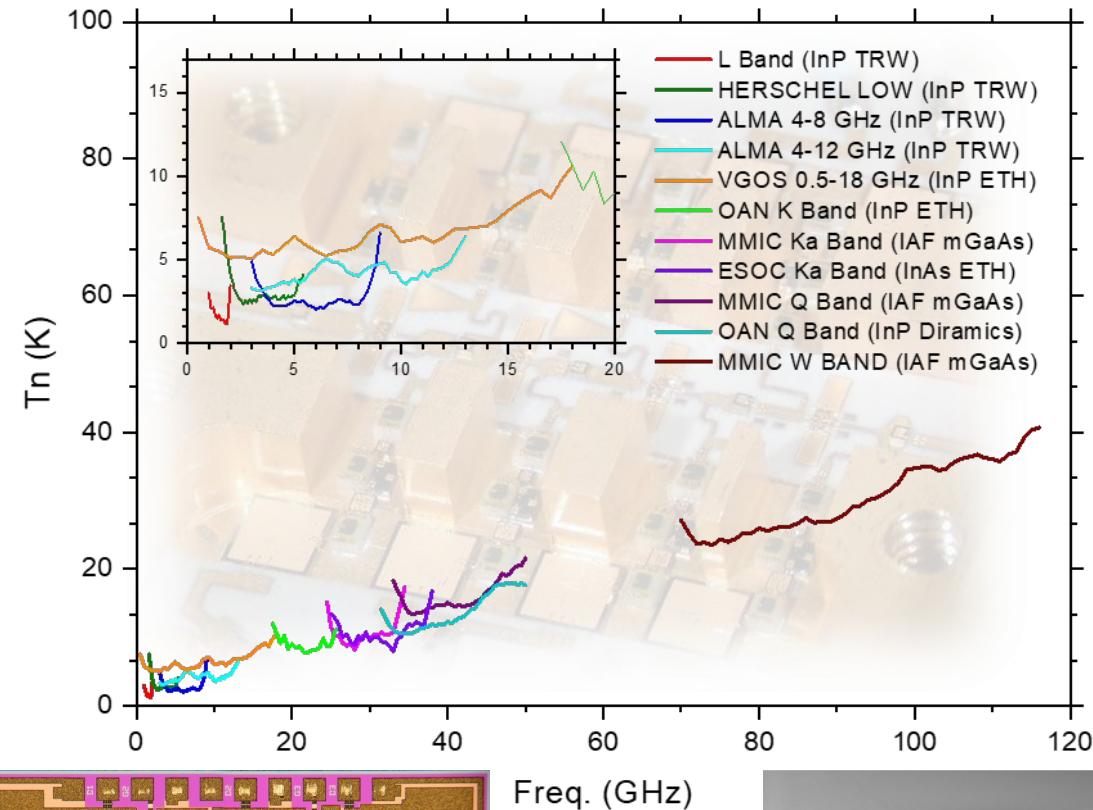
## Radio Astronomy receivers

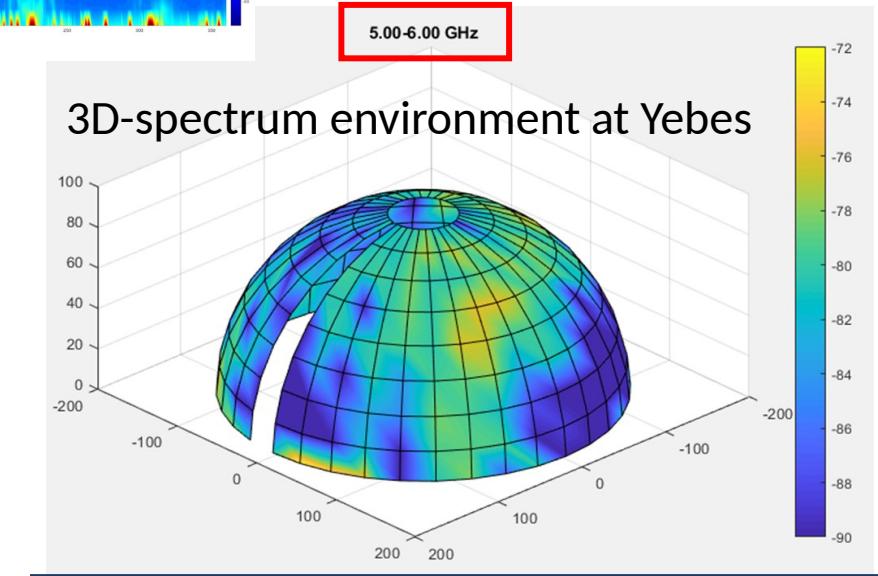
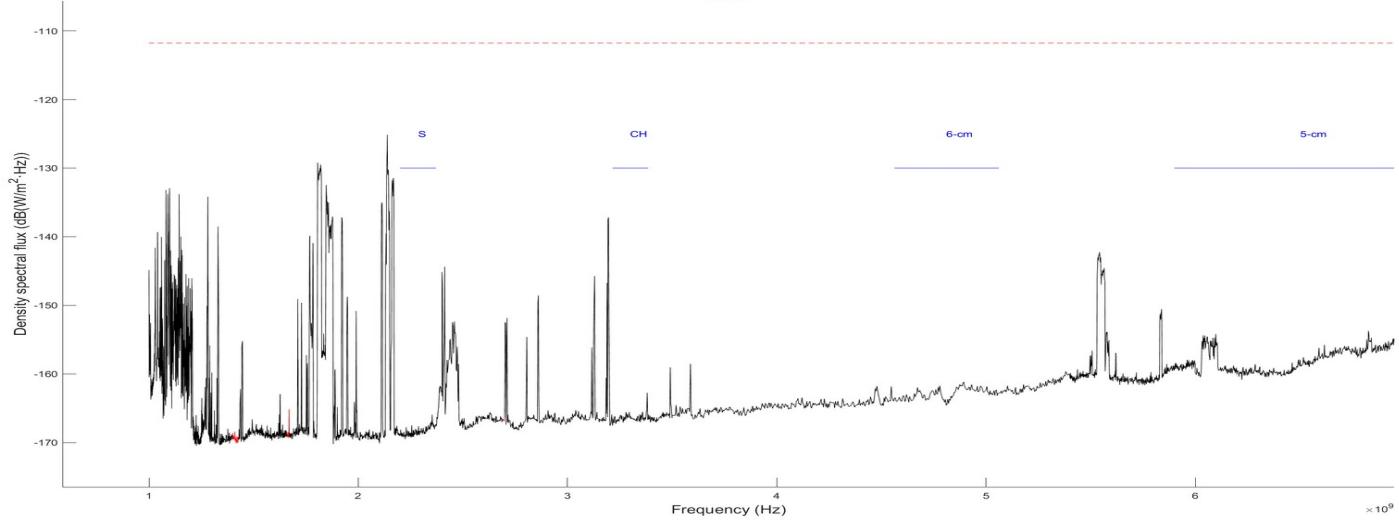
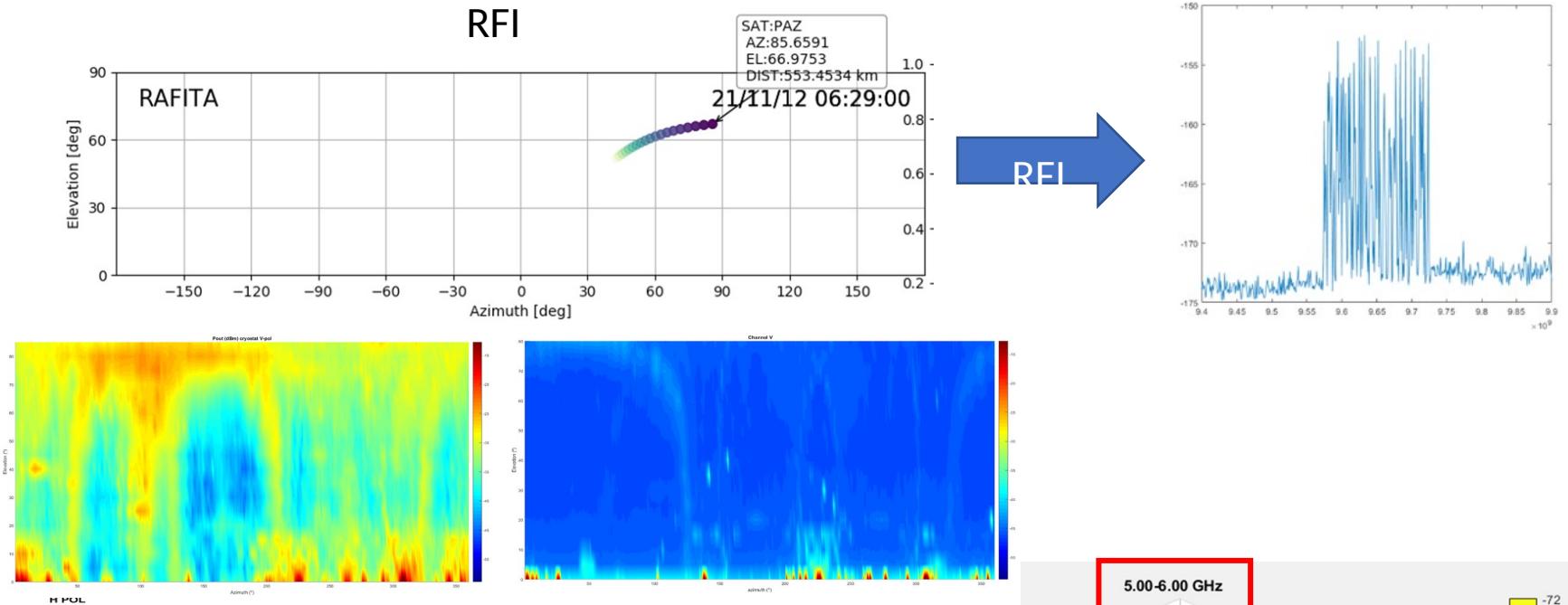
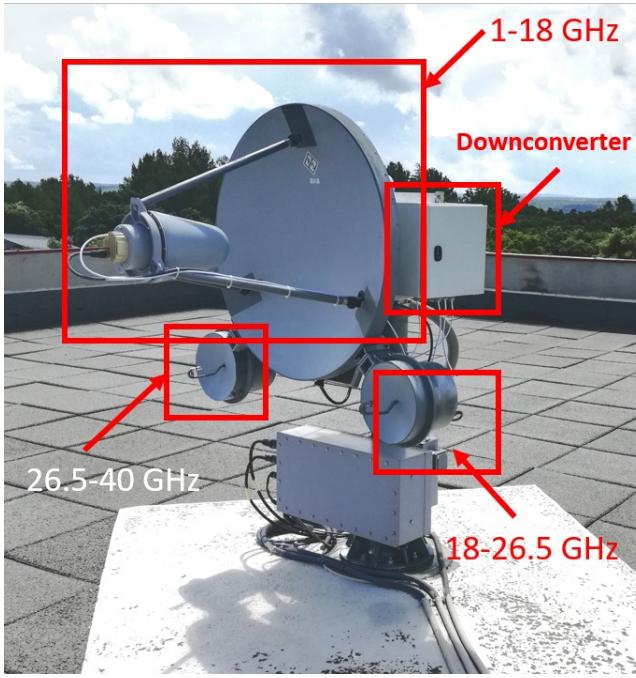


## Cryogenic low noise amplifiers and passive devices



Noise Temperature of various YEBES amplifiers ( $T_{amb}=15K$ )



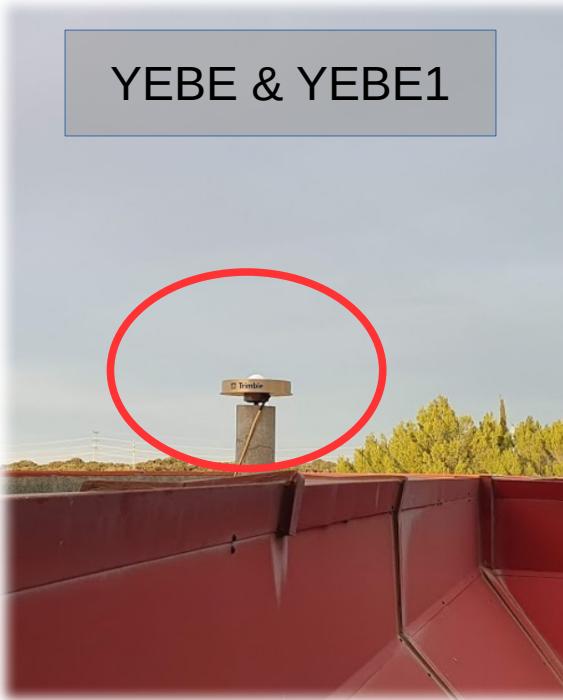


VLBI



IVS legacy RT 14m (since 1992)  
IVS legacy RT 40m (since 2008)  
IVS VGOS RT 13m (since 2016)

GNSS



EUREF  
IGS (since 2000)  
ERGNSS

SLR



Beginning of operations  
(mid-2023)

## Special funding: European Regional Development Funds (ERDF)



### ERDF: YDALGO

**9.490.000 € (80% EU+ 20% Spain)**

- Laboratories, workshops & equipment for developments in Radio Astronomy
- New SLR station

January 2018 → June 2023

### ERDF: YNART

**3.735.000 € (80% EU + 20% Spain)**

- Improvements in the 40m radio telescope
- New VLBI software correlator

January 2020 → June 2023





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